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## iPad User Guide

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iPadOS 16

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# Intro to transferring files between your iPad and computer

There are multiple ways to make files on your iPad appear on your Mac or Windows PC, and vice versa.

- *Wirelessly, with email, messages, or AirDrop:* You can use email, messages, and AirDrop to send files to yourself from one device and download them on another. See [Transfer files wirelessly between your iPad and computer with email, messages, or AirDrop](#).
- *Automatically, with iCloud:* You can store your files, photos, videos, and more in the cloud where they automatically stay up to date on your iPad and Mac or Windows PC. See [Automatically keep your files up to date on your iPad and computer with iCloud](#).
- *With a cloud storage provider:* You can store your files on a service like Box or Dropbox to make them available on both your iPad and computer. See [Share files between your iPad and computer with a cloud storage service](#).
- *With an external storage device:* You can copy files to an external device, such as a USB drive or SD card, connected to your iPad or computer. After disconnecting the storage device, you can connect it to your other device and copy the files to that device. See [Transfer files between your iPad and computer with an external storage device](#).
- *With a file server:* By connecting to a file server from your iPad and your Mac or Windows PC, you can share files between them. See [Use a file server to share files between your iPad and computer](#).
- *With the Finder or iTunes:* After you connect your iPad to your Mac or Windows PC with a cable, you can sync many types of data and transfer many types of files. See [Sync content or transfer files between your iPad and computer with the Finder or iTunes](#).

Each approach requires you to set up your computer to receive and send files, and each may have limitations on the items you want to transfer.

**Important:** There may be restrictions for transferring, sharing, or syncing some types of files, such as those saved in apps' proprietary formats, those saved in older software versions, and those under copyright protection. In some cases, apps may allow you to export files in other formats or to purchase or subscribe to copyrighted material on other devices.

Helpful?

Yes


No

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